Catalina State Park

P.O. Box 36986 Tucson, AZ 85740 (520) 628-5798



Become a Junior Ranger at Catalina State Park! Pledge to do your part to help preserve the beauty of the park for everyone to enjoy! Get your Junior Ranger booklet at the park, complete it, and bring it to a Park Ranger for review. Then receive your Junior Ranger Button! Enjoy this sample activity. We hope to see you at the park.

It's a Saguaro's Life!

Junior Ranger Activity: Only in the Sonoran Desert can you find the Giant Saguaro Cactus! It takes a I-o-n-g time for a Saguaro to grow to full size. Help this Saguaro grow from a seed to adult by matching the description of the Saguaro's life with the drawing that shows what is described! Place the correct number in the boxes.

- 1. The fruit of the Saguaro produces about 2,000 seeds. When it falls to the ground the juicy inside is eaten by animals.
- **2.** By 30-40 years of age, it begins producing flowers but no arms.
- 3. By the time it is 5 years old, the Saguaro may be only 1/2 inch tall! How fast it grows depends on the growing conditions.
- **4.** Arms begin growing at 50-75 years old!
- Saguaros bloom in May and may be pollinated by bats or moths.
- **6.** When the cactus dies, only the woody skeleton remains.
- Saguaros can live up to 200 years and will continue to grow new arms.



